

Today's Advertisements.

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.
THERE will be NO COMPETITION TOMORROW.
The INTERPORT MATCH will be shot between the 1st and 15th November. Members are requested to get as much PRACTICE as possible and to send in their scores to the Secretary.
The Secretary will be glad to receive subscriptions, limited to 3s for each Gun, for the Handicap Gun, one Long Range and one Short Range. The Handicaps have now been revised and Members may obtain their points on application to the Secretary.
THE RANGE is opened on SUNDAY MORNING from 10 A.M. to 1 P.M.
MOWBRAY'S NORTHCOLE,
Hon. Secretary.
Hongkong, 14th October, 1893. [35]

METROPOLE HOTEL.
SAU KI-WAN ROAD.
AN easy and comfortable drive from the City will OPEN on SATURDAY, the 22nd October.
Fleet Brands of Wines, Spirits and Beers, BOTTLED.
Lunches and Dinners served on the SHORTEST NOTICE.
Telephone No. 121.
CHAS. DALTON,
Manager.
Hongkong, 14th October, 1893. [1234]

WANTED.
WANTED: Indian Manager for Hongkong and ASSISTANTS for Shanghai and Singapore.
W. ROBINSON & Co.
Hongkong, 14th October, 1893. [1198]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.
FOR SWATOW.
THE Company's Chartered Steamship
"KONGHONG,"
Captain Jervis, will be despatched for the above Port on SUNDAY, the 16th instant at Daylight.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LAIRRAIK & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 14th October, 1893. [1230]

FOR KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.
THE Steamship
"NIPPON MARU,"
Captain Evans, will be despatched for the above Ports on MONDAY, the 17th instant, at 5 P.M.
This Steamship has a large Accommodation for Passengers and is fitted with the Electric Light.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 14th October, 1893. [1235]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.
FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND TAIWANFOO.
THE Chartered Steamship
"TAICHIO,"
Captain Primrose, will be despatched for the above Ports on TUESDAY, the 18th instant, at Daylight.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LAIRRAIK & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 14th October, 1893. [1236]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.
FROM SOUTH SHIELDS, NEW CASTLE, LONDON AND SINGAPORE.
THE Steamship
"NIPPON MARU,"
Captain F. R. Evans, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, at Kowloon and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.
No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godown, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 10th instant will be subject to rent.
All broken, chafed, and damaged goods are to be left in the godown, where they will be examined on the 10th instant at 2.30 P.M.
No Fire Insurance will be effected.
Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 14th October, 1893. [1233]

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.
THE Steamship
"CATHERINE APCAR,"
having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods will be delivered from alongside.
Cargo impeding the discharge or remaining on board after 2 P.M. of the 17th instant will be landed at Consignees' risk and expense into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, at Wanchai.
Consignees of Cargo from SINGAPORE and PENANG are requested to take IMMEDIATE DELIVERY of their Goods from alongside, as cargo impeding the discharge of the vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.
No Fire Insurance will be effected.
Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 14th October, 1893. [1231]

NOTICE.
CONSIGNEES OF CARGO per Steamship
"OPTIC."
The above Steamer having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.
Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.
J. S. VAN BUREN,
Agent.
Hongkong, 14th October, 1893. [1-2]

WORTH A GUINEA A BOX.
DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.
FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND TAIWANFOO.
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Hongkong, 14th October, 1893. [1236]

Today's Advertisements.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.
NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES OF CARGO per Steamship
"GLENGYLE."
are hereby notified that their Goods are being landed and stored at their risk in the Company's Godowns at Wanchai, from whence delivery may be obtained on countersignature of Bills of Lading.
Goods remaining unclaimed after the 21st instant will be subject to rent.
No Fire Insurance will be effected.
J. S. VAN BUREN,
Agent.
Hongkong, 14th October, 1893. [1-2]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.
THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship
"CHUSAN,"
FROM BOMBAY, COLOMBO AND STRAITS
Consignees of Cargo by the above-named vessel are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each consignment will be noted out mark by mark and delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.
This vessel brings on Cargo—
From London, &c., ex S.S. Oceana.
From Australia, ex S.S. Formosa.
From Persian Gulf, ex S.S. Pachumba and Nasser.
Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary before 10 A.M. TO-DAY.
Goods not cleared by the 20th instant, at 4 P.M., will be subject to rent.
No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in any case whatever.
All damaged Packages must be left in the Godowns and a certificate of the damage obtained from the Godown Company within ten days after the Vessel's arrival here, after which no Claims will be recognized.
H. A. RITCHIE,
Superintendent.
Hongkong, 14th October, 1893. [1-2]

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H. A. RITCHIE,
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Hongkong, 14th October, 1893. [1-2]

Intimation.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.
MANUFACTURERS OF
AERATED WATERS.

AERATED WATERS of our manufacture are sold throughout the Far East and are invariably preferred on account of their excellence.
ABSOLUTE PURITY is guaranteed. The best materials only are used.
THE PRICES are only half those charged in England.

WATERS MANUFACTURED BY US are acknowledged by the leading English makers to be equal to those of their own production.

SIR EDWARD FRANKLAND, K.C.B., D.C.L., F.R.S., &c. the greatest living authority on Water, reports as follows on the water as prepared and used by us in our manufacture:—
"It possesses an extremely high degree of organic purity and is of most excellent quality for drinking."

During the Summer Months, all AERATED WATERS should be kept in a cool place, preferably in an ICE CHEST or REFRIGERATOR, until required for use. The Bottles should be stored with the necks downward so that the corks are covered by the water. This will prevent an escape of gas taking place and rendering the waters more or less flat.

A. S. WATSON & CO. LD.
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.
ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.
Hongkong, 5th September, 1893. [7]

BIRTH.
At Foochow, on the 3rd of October, the wife of E. GORDON LOWDER, of a daughter.
MARRIAGE.
On the 10th Sept. at St. Margaret's Westminster, by the Rev. F. C. Hill, rector of St. Margaret's, Surrey, AVERTIS HARRISON, formerly of the 14th Northumberland Fusiliers, and afterwards Receiver of Supreme Court at Penang, aged 63.

DEATHS.
At No. 3, Canton Villas, Kowloon, on the 13th September, ELIZABETH THREPLAND, Wife of Edward Whistler, C.E. [1232]
At the General Hospital, Shanghai, on the 8th of October, JAMES MACARTHUR, aged 43 years.
On the 11th Sept., at a Private, Campden Hill, Kensington, FRANCIS R. BRADFORD, formerly of the 14th Northumberland Fusiliers, and afterwards Receiver of Supreme Court at Penang, aged 63.

REUTER'S MESSAGES.
CAPE POLITICS.
LONDON, October 12th.
The Cape Assembly has passed a vote of no confidence in the Government by 59 to 37.
GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE.
Daily interviews take place between Sir E. Monson and M. De Cassas in reference to the Fashoda incident. It is semi-officially stated that France claims the right of control with the Nile basin for the commercial development of the French Sudan.
EGYPT.
The reported intended removal of the War Office from Cairo to Khartoum is untrue.
TYPHOON WARNING.
WARNING FROM MANILA.
Senor Don Jose de Navarro, Spanish Consul at this port, cautiously places the following telegrams at our disposal:—
"Manila 12th October 4 p.m. Typhoon is now to the N.W. of Manila between parallels 18 and 19 apparently moving in given direction."
"Manila, 13th October, 4 p.m. Typhoon is apparently, receding in China Sea."

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LOCAL AND GENERAL.

STROKANT Collet to-day secured a conviction against a ruffian-looking celestial for returning from banishment. Twelve months' was prescribed.
Owing to pressure on our news columns some of the correspondence kindly forwarded by the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce has been unavoidably held over.

THE U.S. Navy Department is contracting, under new plans, for three battleships of higher speed than 18 knots, of 12,500 tons displacement, with 2,000 tons of coal capacity, and capable of steaming 10,000 miles.

THE master of the steam-launch *Annie* was fined \$15 at the Magistrate's day for neglecting to carry aboard screens on the port and starboard bows, so as to prevent the light being seen across the bow while under way between sunset and sunrise.

THE V. R. C. Football team is playing a match against H.M.S. *Porpoise* to-morrow at 3.45 sharp. The V. R. C. team will be—Goal—Brett. Backs—Cameron and Corbett; Half Backs—Cavillio, Yule and Gonsalves. Forwards—Seth, Cray, Tuohy, Henderson and Rose.

VAN OVERSTRAETEN was charged at the Magistrate's day with being a rogue and vagabond and having no visible means of subsistence, being found sleeping on the "clock" ground. Defendant said that he was an engineer. He came here about four months ago by the *Inaba Maru* from A.werp as a first class passenger. He was destitute. Commander Hastings declared him a vagrant and sent him to the house of detention.

THE *Onaka Asaki* remarks that the Import duty on wines is by the Conventional Tariff with France fixed at 10 per cent, and consequently when the duty is increased, foreign wines will be comparatively cheaper. Therefore, argues the *Asaki*, the Japanese Government will under the necessity of negotiating with the French Government in order to withdraw wines from the Conventional Tariff. Some of the Japanese appear to think that as soon as any Treaty provision is likely to work in the interests of the foreigner, the Japanese Government may claim to have it revised. Such persons do not seem able to grasp the principle of reciprocity which underlies a Treaty.
Kobe Chronicle.

THE cricket match for to-morrow is H.K. C. C. v. The Navy. The following is the selected Club team for the occasion:—A. S. Anton, H. Arthur, G. D. Campbell, K. G. Campbell, C. M. G. Borne, Capt. P. S. Dyson, Capt. Langhorne, W. L. Leithbridge, J. A. Lowson (Captain), H. S. Moherly, T. Sembrance Smith. Lowson will probably have to stand down owing to an injured hand, in which case Hancock will take his place and Sembrance Smith will captain the eleven. Owing to the departure of the *Bonaventure* the Naval XI will not be so strong as was expected, still a close match is expected. Play will commence at 11.30 sharp and at 3 or 3.30 p.m. on Monday, if it is necessary, in order to complete one innings.

THE Korean *Independent* of the 29th ult. says:—"H.H.H. the Crown Prince has been again ill for a few days past. He had been suffering seriously from dysentery for over two months when he drank poisoned coffee on the 11th September. It is very unfortunate that the Crown Prince has no faith in the efficacy of foreign medicine. We believe in the skill of Korean doctors, in the curative virtues of deer-horns and tiger-bones, in the miraculous power of will, glossing, and all the rest. Nor do we think that thousands of dollars spent in offering sacrifices, and prayers to the spirits of mountains and rivers through fortune-tellers and sorceresses are money wasted or labour lost. Nevertheless, we do wish that His Imperial Highness would let a competent foreign doctor treat him just once."

At the Magistrate's yesterday William Young, late captain of the guard of the King of Korea, was again brought before Commander Hastings. It was in consequence of a telegram which Consul-General Wildman received from Shanghai that the man was arrested. On learning the particulars of the case, however, Mr. Wildman asked for permission to withdraw the charge. Captain Superintendent May opposed the application. Chief Detective Inspector Hanson said he had been directed by the Captain Superintendent to ask for the discharge of Young, as the United States Consul was unwilling to produce evidence or take any further steps in the case. The police had, therefore, no option but to apply for his discharge. Young was accordingly discharged.

EMBEZZLEMENT BY A HONGKONG DISPENSARY EMPLOYEE.

At the Police Court to-day before Commander Hastings, Pang Chai, clerk in the employ of Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., was charged at the instance of Mr. Henry Humphreys with embezzling chaute and medicines, value \$2,000, the property of Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co. between 18th July and 31st December, 1892.
Mr. C. Evans, solicitor, appeared for the prosecution and Mr. Dick Melbourne, barrister, for the defence.
Mr. Evans asked that the amount mentioned in the charge be altered, substituting \$2,000 for \$1,000. He brought a second charge of embezzling \$1,800 in 1893, and a third for falsification of accounts.
The charge was amended accordingly.
Indian constable No. 640 said that at 3.45 p.m. yesterday whilst on duty at the Clock Tower he was called into Watson's Dispensary and defendant was given into his custody by Mr. Evans.
The case was remanded till the 21st at 11 a.m. Bail—\$5,000.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At the monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, held at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, the 11th October. Present: Messrs. R. M. Gray (Chairman), Herbert Smith (Vice-Chairman), A. Haupp, J. J. Bell-Irving, T. Jackson, A. McConachie, H. A. Ritchie, N. A. Siebs, and R. C. Wilcox (Secretary).

The Minutes of the previous Meeting (held on the 1st Sept.) were read and confirmed.

THE STEAMSHIP AND TRADING COMPANY, Limited, had been admitted to membership during the past month.
THE IMPERIAL MARITIME CUSTOMS AND HONGKONG
In conformity with the decision come to at last meeting, the resolutions passed on the above subject were, on the 2nd September, transmitted to Lord Salisbury and to the Hongkong Government with the request that they should be forwarded to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.
A letter in acknowledgment was received on the 5th September with the Assurance that copies of the resolutions would be despatched to the Colonial Office and to H.E.M.'s Minister at Peking.
A letter was, on the 8th Idem, addressed to the London Chamber of Commerce on the same subject, and the support and co-operation of the metropolitan body solicited.
The subject had been forwarded to the press for publication.

THE INCREASED RENTAL OF WHARVES AND PIERS.
A reply to the Chamber's letter to the Government on this subject was received on the 17th September in which it was stated that, after due re-consideration, H. E. the Acting Governor reported his inability to reverse or modify the decision already arrived at in regard to the annual rents to be charged for piers and wharves under the new Regulations.

The Chairman said he understood the parties interested were moving in this matter, and he thought the Chamber should second them in any effort to obtain a re-consideration of the rental charged under the new regulations.

The Vice-Chairman said he was about to ask, on behalf of the wharf owners, to be allowed to have the use of the Chamber's Room for a meeting.
Permission was accorded, and further action deferred pending result of the meeting.

PROPOSED WESTERN HARBOUR OF REFUGE.
A letter having been received from Mr. R. K. Leigh, C.E., suggesting the advisability of constructing a harbour of refuge by forming a break-water at the western end of the harbour, the matter was favourably entertained by the Committee, and on the 13th September a despatch was addressed to Government strongly recommending the suggestion to its careful consideration.

No reply had yet been received to this communication.
CROWN LEASES.
The Government being desirous of obtaining the views of the Chamber on the change lately introduced, reducing the term of Crown Leases from 99 to 75 or 99 years at the most, a letter was, on the 22nd September, addressed to the Colonial Secretary giving the opinions of the Chamber, which are strongly adverse to the alteration.

A reply, stating that a copy of the above had gone forward by French mail, was received on the 10th September.
The Chairman said he understood that a good many opinions had been taken on this point by the Hongkong Government, and as they must be universally against the short leases, it may be hoped that the consensus of opinion will have due effect on the Colonial Office.

THE QUESTION OF THE PORT OF KIOCH W.
A letter was received from the Government transmitting copy of a letter from the German Consul reporting the opening of Kiochow as a free port on the 2nd September.

The Chairman said—You are aware that when the Vice-Chairman, the Secretary, and I called on Admiral Lord Charles Bessford to invite him to address a public meeting (which he declined), he accorded us a lengthy interview, in which he discussed the position of affairs in China and the subject of his visit as representing the Associated Chambers of Commerce of Europe. The principal points brought forward were much on the lines of his speech at Singapore, which speech was not then known to us, and he explained that the principal object of his inquiry would be to ascertain what could be done to create security for the investment of British capital in China and for the promotion of trade by such security, and by the enforcement of the provisions of the Treaty of Commerce, particularly with reference to the illegal taxation of foreign goods. He recommended the Chamber to make known its views on the situation and stated that both it and the Shanghai Chamber might be assured that their opinions would receive full attention at home.

THE WORKING OF THE POST OFFICE.
Letters had been received from Messrs. Cawsey, Pallen & Co., and Gibb, Livingston & Co., making serious complaints of the loss of correspondence by the Post Office, although duly noted, signed for, and enclosed in strong covers.
Several other cases were also mentioned of recent loss of letters, and the matter was considered urgent, as calling for a more searching investigation. It was decided to forward copies of both letters to the Government and to ask that an immediate and thorough inquiry be made into the complaint.

THE QUESTION OF CROWN LEASES.

The following correspondence has been forwarded by the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce for publication:—

22nd September, 1893.
Sir—It having come to the knowledge of the Committee of this Chamber that the Government, acting under instructions from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, have reduced the period for which the leases of Crown Lands are granted, viz: from 99 years to 75 or 99 years at the utmost, they respectfully beg to lay their views on this important subject before His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government.
The Crown Leases in the city of Victoria and its suburbs were originally granted for 75 years only, but this short term not proving satisfactory, in March, 1849, upon the recommendation of a Committee of the House of Commons, and extension of 24 years was granted to the holders of then existing leases, and the term fixed at 99 years for the future, which was adhered to without exception until within the last two months. Several lots on the Returned Area in Tai-ping-shan were then sold on a lease of 75 years, but the premium demanded had to be reduced, and a longer period was granted.
In Kowloon the Crown Leases have, with some few exceptions, viz: two or three inland lots, the Marine lots at Tsim-tai-shan, and the property held by the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. all of which are on a tenure of 99 years—been made for a term of 75 years, and the same term was given to the Retail Building

Lots in the Hill District. The owners of all these lots, however, were allowed to believe that the question of the future extension of the lease to a party with those held within the city of Victoria would be considered, and that in no case would resumption follow on conclusion of the term. In this faith, too, mortgagees have been effected which otherwise could not have safely been concluded.

The Committee feel profound regret that so radical a measure affecting the tenure of land should have actually been put into operation without consulting any opinion in this colony, and they deplore the tendency of the Colonial Office to endeavour to apply legislation to distant dependencies of the Crown without sufficient regard being had to the local circumstances. In the present case the change so unconsciously introduced cannot fail to have far-reaching consequences and in its working will assuredly act disastrously on the future wellbeing of the Colony. In protesting against the change, the Committee wish to point out:—

1.—The abandonment of long leases, after granting the same for nearly fifty years, will have the effect of

a.—Placing all property held on 99 years lease at a high premium.

b.—Reducing the premium on sales of Crown Lands from 50 per cent. to 60 per cent. according to locality.

c.—Producing a great decline in the demand for Crown Lands and consequent falling off in revenue.

d.—Increasing the strain on the money market by rendering many properties non-negotiable as securities for loans, any lease having less than sixty years to run being regarded as insufficient by trustees and corporations.

2.—Another result of the change will be that the city of Victoria will cease to expand, as it will not pay to erect substantial buildings, such as banks, hotels, mercantile offices, etc., on leasehold ground held for a short term. It will prove more remunerative to purchase existing buildings pull them down and re-erect, economizing the area by increasing the multitude of the effect being to aggravate congestion and intensify the risk of fire.

3.—The prospect, which hitherto seemed so favourable, of the Colony attracting valuable new industries to its shores, must dissipate into thin air, as it is quite out of the question to suppose that capitalists will lay down expensive plant and rear massive buildings with no better tenure for their property than a 75 years lease.

4.—Landed property in Hongkong has, ever since the extension of the Crown Leases to 99 years, been the favourite form of investment with the Chinese, and large sums of money are annually sent from Canton to be invested here. The Chinese regard the 99 years' lease as practically freehold, and hence a confidence in the security that they repose in another investment. It would surely be most undesirable to disturb that confidence or to stay that influx of capital into a Colony where, owing to the instability of exchange, this medium is so painfully restricted.

5.—Under this new system, rents, which are already very high and press hardly on a large section of the community, will inevitably be largely increased, and the pressure will be felt more severely by landowners coming as it will immediately after the heavy outlay required in the security that they repose in another investment. What is of even greater importance, however, is the check it will infallibly impose on the outgrowth of the city.

6.—That check will extend more or less through the whole fabric of the Colony's prosperity, and will speedily make itself felt on the revenue. In attempting thus to provide for the benefit of posterity shall we not be risking the growth of the legacy it is designed to begeth? Trusting that His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government will, when of time, be so good as to make known the views of the Chamber on this momentous question to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

To Hon. T. Secretary Smith, Acting Colonial Secretary.
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 10th October, 1893.

Sir,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd ultimo relative to the reduction of the term of years for which Crown Leases are granted, and to inform you that a copy of it was sent to Downing Street by the French mail of the 8th instant.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) T. STRECHER SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.

THE POST OFFICE SCANDAL.

MORE COMPLAINTS.

The Secretary of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce forwards copies of the following correspondence for publication:—
Hongkong, 10th October, 1893.
R. C. Wilcox, Esq., Secretary, Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

Dear Sir,—As the Hongkong Post Office matters have already been having the attention of your Committee, we beg to acquaint you with the following:—
On the 1st ult., we addressed a cover to our friend, Mr. Foxworth per

